

Minute of the Meeting of Harray and Sandwich Community Council via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 21 April 2021 at 19:15

Present:

Mr D Hamilton, Mr G Brown, Mrs E Grant, Mr K Groundwater, Mr C Kirkness, Mrs E Rendall and Mrs K Ritch.

In Attendance:

- Councillor H Johnston.
- Councillor O Tierney.
- Councillor D Tullock.
- Mrs M Spence, Democratic Services Manager.
- Mrs J McGrath, Interim Clerk/Community Council Liaison Officer.

Order of Business

1. Apologies and Welcome	2
2. Adoption of Minutes	2
3. Matters Arising.....	2
4. Correspondence	3
5. Consultations	4
6. Financial Statements	4
7. Applications for Financial Assistance.....	5
8. Publications	5
9. Any Other Competent Business.....	5
10. Dates of Next Meetings	6
11. Conclusion of Meeting	6

1. Apologies and Welcome

Resolved to note that apologies for absence had been received from Mr G Sinclair and Councillor R King.

The Chair welcomed Mrs E Rendall to the meeting, who had been duly elected at the public meeting prior to the general meeting.

2. Adoption of Minutes

The minute of the general meeting held on 10 February 2021 was approved by members, being proposed by Mr C Kirkness and seconded by Mr G Brown.

3. Matters Arising

A. St Peters Car Park and Kirkyard Gate

The Interim Clerk advised that she had checked with the Strategic Policy and Projects Manager and the gates had been installed. Members confirmed this and it was noted that they had received thanks from members of the public, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Northbigging Road – Visibility Issues

Members had been forwarded correspondence from the property owners, as well as a report from the Roads Authority Officer, who had carried out a site visit the previous week. Work had been done by the property owners to cut back foliage to help with visibility at that corner, and the Roads Authority Officer had been satisfied that there was no impact on the junction with the A986. It had, however, been noted that the roadside verge outside the property was being over-run by traffic, and that the Council would look to install some kerbing to try and prevent any further damage, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Roads Issues

Members confirmed that the pothole in the proximity of Decca Station Houses, Sandwick, had been attended to, and the Interim Clerk advised that a date for completing other works was not yet known, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

D. Festive Lighting

As the report on this matter had not been discussed by the Council's Development and Infrastructure Committee, there was no available update, and it was:

Resolved to carry forward this item for discussion at the next meeting.

E. Harray Hall Car Park

As Mr G Sinclair was not present, it was:

Resolved to discuss this item at the next meeting.

F. Road Safety Issues

The Interim Clerk advised that the Education department had been advised of the issues and that they would speak to pupils and bus drivers about safety when coming out of the bus.

Getting bigger signs at the end of the Lyde Road to warn of the corner was discussed again and the Democratic Services Manager confirmed that signs could not be put in the carriageway, they had to be on private property, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

G. Dounby Civic Amenity Site

Councillor D Tullock advised that he had been given a guarantee that the site would reopen again but could not give a timescale. The opening was dependent on getting more drivers, and he was due to meet with the Executive Director of Development and Infrastructure again at the end of the month, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

4. Correspondence

A. The Circular Economy and the Planning System

Following consideration of correspondence from Planning Aid Scotland, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding events open to community councillors on achieving zero carbon targets and the circular economy, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

B. Scottish Water – Leaks and Bursts

Following consideration of correspondence from Scottish Water, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding assistance from householders to identify leaks and bursts after the recent cold spell, it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

C. Calor Rural Community Fund

Following consideration of correspondence from the Calor, copies of which had previously been circulated, regarding a national grant scheme, it was:

Resolved to note the contents of the correspondence.

D. HITRANS – E-Cargo Bikes

Following consideration of correspondence sent on behalf of the Transportation Manager, copies of which had previously been circulated, advising of funding for E-Cargo bikes and asking for notes of interest, it was:

Resolved that members could think of no use for the bikes in their local area.

E. Community Renewal Fund

Members had been forwarded copies of a briefing note on the Community Renewal Fund, the aim of which was to enable pilot projects and new approaches to community development, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

F. Orkney Regional Marine Plan

Members had been forwarded an email regarding the preparation of a statutory Regional Marine Plan for Orkney, which provided information on future updates and how to find details, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

5. Consultations

A. Scottish Government – Easing of Covid-19 Restrictions on Islands

Following consideration of the consultation by the Scottish Government, circulated by Democratic Services and previously forwarded to members, regarding the easing of Covid-19 restrictions on the islands, it was:

Resolved to note that a number of members had responded to this consultation individually.

B. The Orkney Partnership – Community Priorities

Following consideration of the consultation document from the Orkney Partnership, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the deadline for completing the survey was the end of April.

6. Financial Statements

A. General Fund

Following consideration of the General Fund statement, copies of which had previously been circulated, it was:

Resolved to note that the estimated balance was £7,409.18 as at 31 March 2021.

B. Community Council Grant Scheme

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Council Grant Scheme, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval in the main capping limit was £2,437.01, and the balance in the additional capping limit was £669 as at 30 March 2021.

C. Community Development Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Community Development Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for allocation was £9,640 as at 30 March 2021.

D. Seed Corn Fund

Following consideration of the financial statement for the Seed Corn Fund, it was:

Resolved to note the balance remaining available for approval was £2,500 as at 30 March 2021.

7. Applications for Financial Assistance

A. OASC – Track Start Blocks

Members considered an application from Orkney Amateur Swimming Club, copies of which had previously been circulated, for assistance with the cost of purchasing four new track start blocks. Members agreed that they wished to offer financial support, but were not sure how much funding to commit, and it was:

Resolved to ask for more information from OASC and to discuss again at the next meeting.

B. CC Insurance 2021/2022

Resolved to note that it had previously been agreed, via email, to fund insurance costs of £97.99 for the 2021/2022 financial year from the Community Council Grant Scheme fund.

8. Publications

The following publications had been received and made available to members via email:

- VAO Newsletter – February and March 2021.
- VAO Training and Funding Update – February and March 2021.
- Alistair Carmichael MP – Newsletter - 12 and 26 February, 5 and 12 March 2021.
- Orkney Native Wildlife Project Update – February 2021.
- Orkney Zerowaste Newsletter – April 2021.

9. Any Other Competent Business

A. Union Jack Flag

Members discussed the need for purchasing a Union Jack flag to fly at the relevant times, and it was:

Resolved to find out costings and discuss at the next meeting.

B. Manholes in Dounby village

It was reported that there were a number of raised manholes around Dounby village, one being near the pharmacy, and it was:

Resolved that the Chair would carry out an inspection and report back to members in due course.

C. Members of the Public at Meetings

A member queried whether members of the public could attend virtual meetings the same as they could do when meetings were held in person. The Interim Clerk advised that any member of the public could request the link to the meeting if they wished to attend, and it was:

Resolved to note the information provided.

10. Dates of Next Meetings

Following a discussion regarding dates for the next meetings, it was:

Resolved that the next two meetings of Harray and Sandwick Community Council would be held either online or in the Milestone Church, Dounby, on Wednesdays 9 June and 1 September 2021, both commencing at 19:00.

11. Conclusion of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting concluded at 19:40.